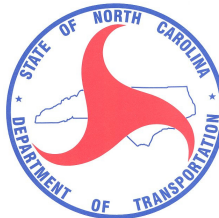


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009



Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site
Nash County
TIP No. B-3876



Prepared By:
Natural Environment Unit & Roadside Environmental Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation
July 2009

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SUMMARY

The Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site is located in Nash County. The site was planted in December 2008 and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with bridge project B-3876.

The mitigation encompasses approximately 0.52 acres of wetland restoration, including 0.22 acres at Site 4 and 0.30 acres at Site 5. The roadway project will impact 0.13 acres of unavoidable wetlands, leaving approximately 0.39 acres of wetland restoration assets onsite. The restoration will involve removing causeway fill from the existing approaches to Bridge No. 34 to match the adjacent wetland elevation. NCDOT will also perform enhancement along 90 feet of stream channel at Site 3 on the UT to Pig Basket Creek by removing existing fill as described above along its right bank and restricting agricultural activities along its left bank. NCDOT shall monitor vegetation success by visual observation and photo documentation and will submit an annual report. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful.

After the first year of monitoring, the Pig Basket Creek Site shows by visual observation that the planted species are surviving. Vehicular trespass for fishing access had been taking place at the Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site. NCDOT will try to minimize the vehicular trespass on site.

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site is located at Bridge No. 34 on SR 1004 over Pig Basket Creek in Nash County (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.52 acres of mitigation for wetland impacts and 90 feet of stream enhancement associated with project B-3876.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2009 at the Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

December 2008

July 2009

Reforestation Completed

Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)

2.0 VEGETATION: PIG BASKET CREEK MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 1 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Success Criteria states that NCDOT shall monitor the mitigation site by visual observation and photo points for survival and aerial cover of vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful. Monitoring will be initiated upon completion of the site planting.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Liriodendron tulipifera, Tulip Poplar

Platanus occidentalis, Sycamore

Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Green Ash

Quercus nigra, Water Oak

Quercus phellos, Willow Oak

The following wetland species were planted in the Stream Enhancement Area:

Salix nigra, Black Willow

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The impacted area where the old bridge and causeway was removed is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving. Planted species noted surviving included sycamore, water oak, and willow oak. Some vehicular trespass for fishing access on site was noted during this evaluation, as seen in Photo #1. NCDOT will try to minimize the vehicular trespass on site. The stream enhancement area was well vegetated with black willow, red maple, tag alder, green ash, and various herbaceous species.

Site Notes: Other species noted within the planted area included: goldenrod, fennel, *Juncus* sp., ragweed, river birch, sedge, and various grasses.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.52 acres of wetland restoration and 90 feet of stream enhancement planted on site. There were no plots established on the site. By visual observation, the Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving and the impacted area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Pig Basket Creek Mitigation Site.

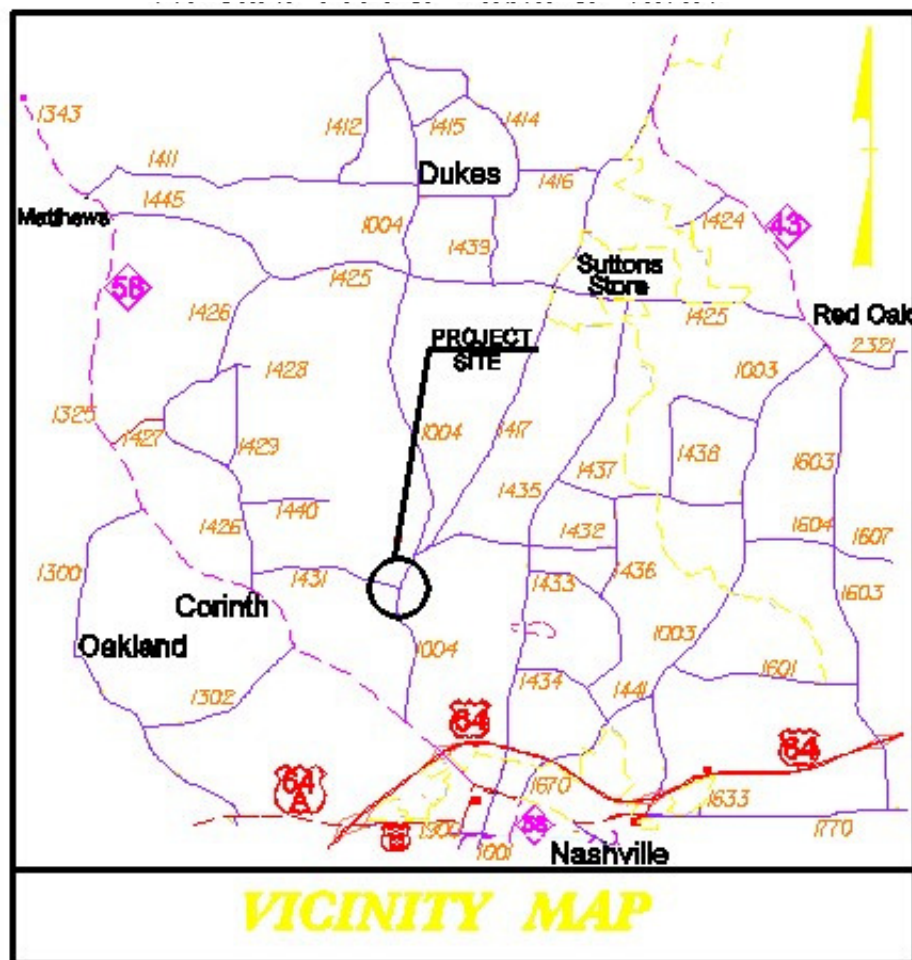


Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Pig Basket Creek



Photo 1 (Wetland Restoration-Site 4)



Photo 2 (Wetland Restoration-Site 5)

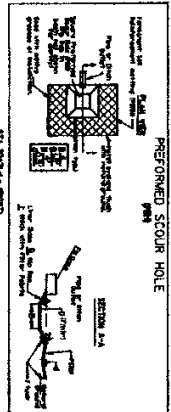
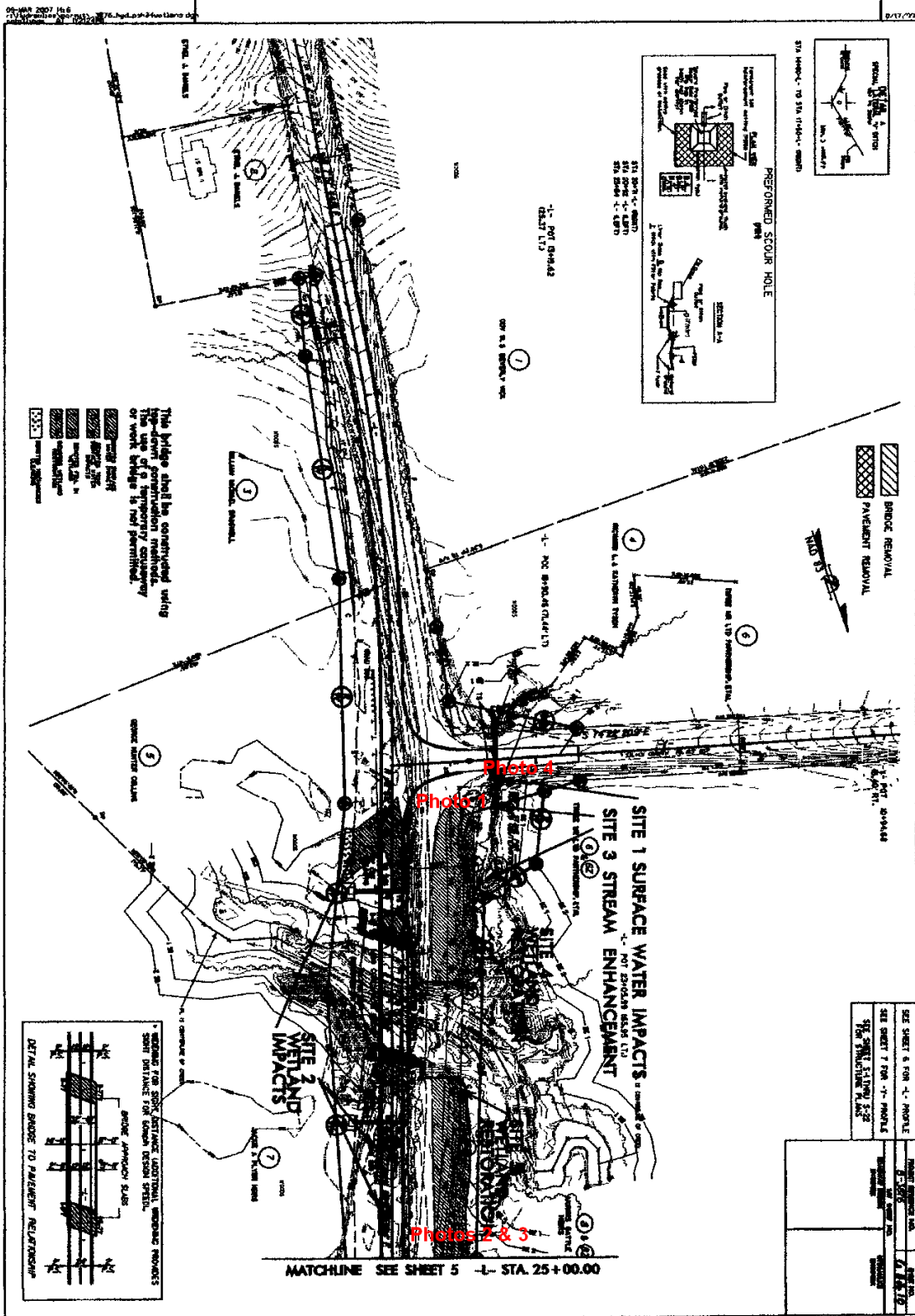


Photo 3 (Wetland Restoration-Site 5)

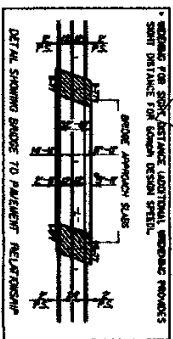


Photo 4 (Stream Enhancement-Site 3)

July 2009

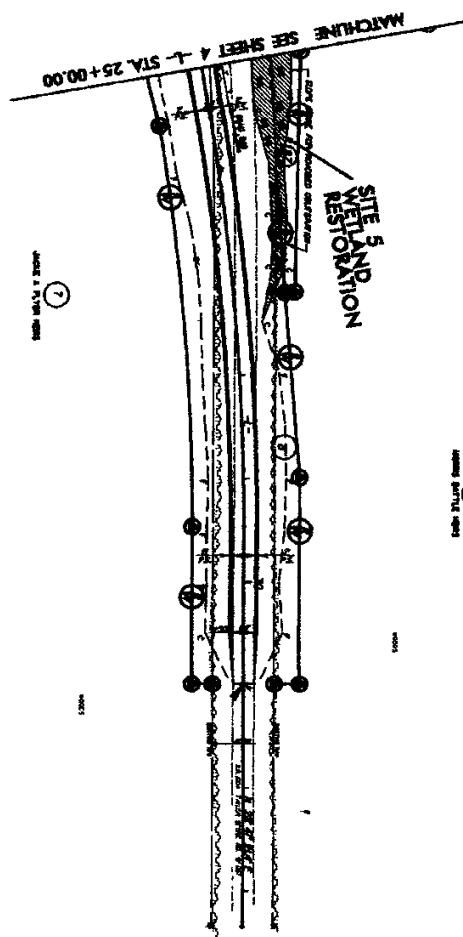


This bridge shall be constructed using the design construction methods. The use of a temporary cofferdam or work bridge is not permitted.



SEE SHEET 6 FOR "A" PROFILE
SEE SHEET 7 FOR "B" PROFILE
SEE SHEET 8 FOR "C" PROFILE
FOR STRUCTURE PLAN

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
1	BRIDGE	11/11/11
2	PAVEMENT	11/11/11
3	WETLAND	11/11/11



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SEP 85

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